

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 037800

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ORIGIN NRC-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 037800

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: SIGNING OF JAERI-NRC LOFT ARRANGEMENT

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO ARRANGE FOR AND CARRY OUT  
EARLY SIGNING OF NRC-JAERI AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN  
LOSS OF FLUID TESTS (LOFT).

2. THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) AND THE JAPANESE  
ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (JAERI) HAVE NEGOTIATED AN  
AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH JAERI WILL CONTRIBUTE ONE MILLION  
DOLLARS A YEAR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOFT REACTOR  
SAFETY RESEARCH PROJECT. (BLOOM AND HENOCH FAMILIAR WITH  
LOFT). THIS LOFT COOPERATION IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF

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PAGE 02 STATE 037800

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY RESEARCH PROGRAM. JAPANESE  
EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ADVISES IT IS URGENT TO SIGN AGREE-

MENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND BEFORE END OF FEBRUARY, AT LATEST, IN ORDER TO ALLOW TIME FOR JAERI TO MAKE FIRST PAYMENT BEFORE MARCH 31 END OF GOJ FISCAL YEAR.

3. IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT, TO BOTH COUNTRIES, EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CONTACT HEAD OF JAERI'S INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OFFICE, AND ARRANGE FOR SIGNING CEREMONY. THE JAPANESE HAVE REQUESTED THAT THE SIGNING BE EITHER THE WEEK OF FEB 16 OR FEB 23. AMEMBASSADOR OR DCM

IS DELEGATED AND REQUESTED TO SIGN FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION. EMBASSY SHOULD INQUIRE OF JAERI AS TO CONTENT OF ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR SIGNING CEREMONY.

4. TWO SIGNATURE "ORIGINALS" OF AGREEMENT WERE AIR POUCHED TO EMBASSY, FEBRUARY 6, ATTENTION SCICONS.

5. ACCEPTABLE FIRST DRAFT OF PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT, WHICH COULD BE RELEASED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN WASHINGTON AND TOKYO, IF ACCEPTABLE TO YOU AND JAERI, FOLLOWS: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND JAPANESE ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE SIGN AGREEMENT ON LOSS OF FLUID TEST RESEARCH PROGRAM. THE -- -- OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN TOKYO, -- -- REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC), AND -- --- OF THE JAPANESE ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (JAERI) TODAY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH JAERI WILL BECOME A PARTY IN THE LOSS OF FLUID TEST (LOFT), A SAFETY RESEARCH TEST PROGRAM NOW BEING CONDUCTED BY NRC. COOPERATION IN THE LOFT PROGRAM IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF THE ENERGY RESEARCH PROGRAM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY, THE ENERGY COOPERATION ARM OF THE 19-NATION PARIS-BASED ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT. JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES ARE BOTH MEMBERS OF IEA AND OECD.

6. UNDER THE AGREEMENT SIGNED TODAY, JAERI WILL CONTRIBUTE ONE MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR (FOR FOUR YEARS) TO THE UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 037800

LOFT PROGRAM. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY BECAME A PARTY TO THE RESEARCH PROGRAM IN JUNE 1975. ALL PARTIES ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PLANNING AND CONDUCT AND TO RECEIVE ALL OF THE RESEARCH INFORMATION FROM LOFT. UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, SCIENTISTS OF JAERI WILL BE STATIONED AT THE TEST SITE AND ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN THE TEST ACTIVITIES AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS. A JAERI CONSULTANT WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN PRESENT PROGRAM AND FUTURE PROGRAM PLANNING REVIEW BY THE LOFT PROGRAMS REVIEW GROUP. THE INFORMATION DERIVED FROM THE PROGRAM IS SHARED BY THE

PARTICIPATING PARTIES. (END OF PRESS RELEASE).

7. MR. Y. TAKAMINE IS HEAD OF JAERI'S INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION OFFICE. INGERSOLL

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